

## **Congressman Tim Bishop**

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## BISHOP ANNOUNCES GREEN LIGHT FOR MATTITUCK DREDGING

Funding is Culmination of Year-Long Effort

**Washington, DC**—Congressman Tim Bishop today announced that funding to dredge Mattituck Inlet is included in the final Energy and Water Appropriations Bill. Bishop has been a fierce advocate for \$700,000 to dredge the Inlet. Mattituck Inlet has not been dredged since 1990, creating an unsafe situation. Bishop also announced another \$100,000 to continue studies of erosion in Mattituck.

"This funding gives us the green light to dredge Mattituck Inlet," Bishop said. "I made a promise to residents of the North Fork that I would fight for this funding, and I keep my promises. This is a great win for our community which will improve safety and the local economy."

As a freshman Congressman, this was Bishop's first opportunity to secure funding to dredge Mattituck Inlet. The money is included in the Energy and Water Appropriations Conference Report, which passed the House by a margin of 387-36, it is expected to be signed into law within the next few weeks.

Bishop has worked closely with Southold Supervisor Josh Horton on this project. Horton informed Bishop about the urgent need for this project even before he was elected to Congress. The two toured the site when Bishop was given a helicopter tour of the Inlet by the Army Corps of Engineers in April.

"Josh Horton is a first-rate advocate for the North Fork and he has helped me to be an effective fighter for our communities in Congress," Bishop said. "You can bet that when dredging begins shortly, that Josh and I will be there together."

"Congressman Bishop has again transformed his understanding of our community's needs into effective solutions and results," Horton said. "Dredging Mattituck Inlet is a crucial public works project that will bear long term benefits to our marine environment and economy."

Bishop has been in touch with officials with the Army Corps of Engineers who have informed his office that they will begin dredging as soon as possible with the goal of completing the project during the current season.